DC ALL IN

13+ TEEN 7

Batgirl™

SECRETS OF SHIVA

BROMBAL
GOODHART
SPICER

SUPERMAN UNLIMITED

ALL IN

IT'S A NEW DAY FOR THE MAN OF STEEL— AND THE DC UNIVERSE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME!

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Written by
DAN SLOTT

Art and cover by
RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE

A new ongoing series starting in
MAY

IT'S FINE.

I'M *FINE*, STEPH.

WE WEREN'T CLOSE.

YOU KNOW.

NO. *BETTER* THIS WAY.

I'LL BE HOME SOON. WILL EXPLAIN WHEN *FINISHED.*

NEED TO MOVE FAST, SO...TELL BRUCE, *DON'T WORRY.*

GOTHAM

YES. STRANGE *ENVELOPE* ARRIVED. NO ADDRESS OR FINGERPRINTS.

OF COURSE, I CHECKED.

NOT *BOMB.*

'CAUSE NO TICKING.

GOTHAM

OKAY. LOVE YOU, TOO.

YES, *STEPHANIE,* I'M ALWAYS--

← EXIT →
--CAREFUL.
WE WILL NOT SURVIVE AT ODDS.
WE MUST CAST ASIDE DIFFERENCES AND WORK TOGETHER!

TOUCH.
SMILE.
NEED HELP FINDING YOUR SEAT, MISS?
THREAT?
NO.
GOTHAM

KLAFTER

KLAK

THUMP

CASSANDRA, MY DAUGHTER...

...IF YOU ARE LISTENING TO THIS, I AM **DEAD.**

PERHAPS EVEN FOR THE BETTER.

WHAT YOU NOW HOLD IN YOUR HANDS IS MY **LIFE STORY.**

A STORY I ONCE SWORE AWAY WHEN I BECAME **LADY SHIVA,** FOR THE GIRL AND WOMAN FOUND WITHIN THESE PAGES...

...NO LONGER **EXIST.**

BUT **LEGACY** IS A FICKLE, TWISTED THING.

MY HOPE, NOW, IS AN **UNDERSTANDING** I NEVER GRANTED YOU IN **LIFE.**

I HAVE **NARRATED** THIS DIARY'S CONTENTS FOR YOU HERE, IF NEEDED, BUT PLEASE **READ ALONG...**

...ITS WORDS EXIST FOR **YOU** ALONE.

THE HIMALAYAS.

WHAT I REMEMBER OF MY **BEGINNINGS** IS BRIEF.

MY FAMILY LIVED A **NOMADIC** LIFE, NEVER IN ONE PLACE TOO LONG. I DID NOT KNOW THEN, BUT WE WERE ALWAYS **FLEEING** SOMETHING...OR **SOMEONE.**

DESPITE THESE TRANSIENT ORIGINS, MY PARENTS WERE **GOOD** PARENTS...

THEY LOVED MY **SISTER** AND ME WITH THE PIECES OF THEIR **HEARTS** THEY COULD AFFORD, AS THERE WAS **MUCH** LEFT UNSAID.

I REMEMBER THE **STORIES** MY MOTHER TOLD BY FIRELIGHT OF **BLUE MOONS** AND **HIDDEN WORLDS.** THE TASTE OF HER **MUTTON SOUP.**

THE GRUFF **GLANCES** OF MY FATHER'S APPROVAL. THE **SCARS** ON HIS HANDS AND BACK. THE **PAIN** I IMAGINED.

OUR PARENTS WISHED TO **SPARE** US FROM A LIFE OF **VIOLENCE,** SO WE **RAN,** LIKE THAT NIGHT THEY STOLE US AWAY UNDER THE **FULL MOON**...

..."AUSPICIOUSLY **BLUE**," MY MOTHER SAID.

THEN, THERE WAS MY **SISTER.**

MEI WAS MY BEST AND ONLY FRIEND. MORE THAN A SISTER, MORE THAN A FRIEND, SHE WAS MY **SISTER-SELF.** FOR WHERE I **ENDED,** SHE **BEGAN.**

IT WAS HER **LIGHT** I EXISTED WITHIN, BOTH IN ITS **SHADOW** AND AS ITS **REFLECTION.**

IN HER **EYES,** I SAW ONLY **MYSELF.**

AND DESPITE OUR PARENTS' WISHES...

...**VIOLENCE** ALWAYS SEEMED TO **FIND** MY SISTER AND ME.

DAUGHTERS...

...IT IS HIGH TIME YOU **RAN.**

AND DO NOT **STOP** UNTIL YOU ARE **FREE!**

BUT--

RUN, MY DAUGHTERS!

REMEMBER, MEI, PROTECT YOUR **SISTER** WITH YOUR **LIFE!**

DIE!

TNK

WHAT I REMEMBER OF MY **PARENTS** IS BRIEF.

BLUE MOONS AND STORIES UNTOLD.

NO!

WARM SOUP. ROUGH SCARS. UNIMAGINABLE **PAIN.**

PARENTS **DIE.**

PARENTS ARE TO BE...**AVENGED.**

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

BATGIRL THE BOOK OF SHIVA

CHAPTER 1

BUT AS WITH ALL THINGS IN LIFE, WHEN THERE IS DEATH...

...THERE IS ALSO **REBIRTH.**

AND FOR ME, ONE UNASSAILABLE **CONSTANT--**

--MY **SISTER AND I.**

TATE BROMBAL WRITER ISAAC GOODHART ARTIST
MIKE SPICER COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
REIKO MURAKAMI COVER
DAN MORA AND ISAAC GOODHART
WITH MIKE SPICER VARIANT COVERS
CLIFF CHIANG AAPI HERITAGE MONTH CONNECTING VARIANT COVER
JESSICA BERBEY EDITOR ROB LEVIN GROUP EDITOR

SUFFERING EXISTS.

TEN YEARS LATER.

IT HAS A *CAUSE.* IT HAS AN *END.*

IT HAS A CAUSE TO BRING *ABOUT* ITS END.

EVERY *MOMENT* GIVES BIRTH TO THE *NEXT.*

THESE GREAT, KARMIC TRUTHS ARE THE PILLARS OF OUR *MORTAL BELIEFS,* BUT, REMEMBER, EVEN THE *GODS* ARE BOUND BY KARMA...

THINK OF *MAHĀKĀLA.*

OUR WRATHFUL, COMPASSIONATE *PROTECTOR* WHO HELPS US ON THE PATH TO *ENLIGHTENMENT.*

WHO POSTPONED HIS OWN ASCENSION IN A VOW TO *LIBERATE* HUMANITY FROM ITS *SUFFERING.*

BUT WHEN HIS *COMPASSIONATE* METHODS DID NOT INSPIRE THE WORLD TO ABANDON THEIR *VICES...*

...MAHĀKĀLA TURNED TO *WRATH,* INSTEAD.

HE REALIZED THAT WITHOUT *OBSTACLES,* HUMANITY LACKED *MOTIVATION* TO PURSUE ENLIGHTENMENT, FOR *SUFFERING* IS THE GREAT *REVEALER.*

CHALLENGES INSPIRE US TO FACE OUR FLAWS AND *BETTER* OURSELVES...

...TO BETTER *EACH OTHER.*

FEET *ROOTED,* MING-YUE. *CLEAR* YOUR MIND.

SO MAHĀKĀLA BECAME AN *AGENT* OF SUFFERING TO REVEAL OUR OBSTACLES...BUT IT IS ALWAYS UP TO US TO *DESTROY THEM.*

FOR THE VICES OF EGO AND ATTACHMENT *LIMIT US ALL.*

PSST!

YUE!

MEI?

YOU'RE STILL HERE, SISTER?

I'VE HAD AN ENTIRE *DAY,* WHILE YOU'VE STRETCHED AND GRUNTED.

LET'S GO!

HIDDEN AWAY IN A SMALL HIMALAYAN VILLAGE, A TEMPLE OF **MONKS** RAISED MY SISTER AND ME...

MEI-XING!

MING-YUE!

YOU MUST NOT BE **LATE** FOR THE **FESTIVAL!**

WE HEARD YOU THE FIRST TIME, **AKHU!**

...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OUR YOUNG **LIVES,** WE WERE NOT ON THE **RUN.**

OUR PARENTS' **DEATHS** LINGERED, OF COURSE, ALONG WITH THEIR MANY **MYSTERIES.** WE DID NOT EVEN KNOW OUR **FAMILY NAME...**

...BUT LOOKING BACK NOW, THOSE WERE THE **HAPPIEST** DAYS OF MY LIFE.

AKHU TAUGHT US TO KEEP OUR HEADS DOWN.

HOW GOES YOUR PRACTICE, YUE?

IMPROVING?

AKHU SAYS SO! PERHAPS NOW I CAN EVEN BEST **YOU,** SISTER.

I HAVE NO **DOUBT** ABOUT THAT!

FOREIGNERS LIKE US DREW SUSPICIONS FROM THE **MOB** THAT CONTROLLED THOSE LANDS.

A MOB KNOWN ONLY AS...**THE BLOOD.**

WHERE IS IT?!

WE KNOW YOU ARE TRADING ***FORBIDDEN MEDICINES,*** OLD WOMAN.

I-I SWEAR, I KNOW ***NOTHING!***

WU FENG IS MERCIFUL BUT NOT TO THOSE WHO ***LIE*** AND ***CHEAT!***

YET, FOR SOME REASON, PERHAPS YOUTHFUL BOREDOM OR JUST FURTHER PROOF OF MY SISTER'S **GOOD HEART...**

...MEI-XING COULD NOT STAY **SILENT** THAT DAY.

HEY!

IF THEY SAY THEY DON'T HAVE IT, THEY'RE TELLING THE ***TRUTH!***

MEI--

EVERYONE PAYS ***THE BLOOD*** WHAT IS OWED.

THIS ***VILLAGE*** WILL NOT STAND FOR ANY--

SMAK

QUIET, COW.

KNOW YOUR PLACE!

DO NOT TOUCH--

--MY SISTER!

KRAK

MING-YUE, DON'T--

LEAVE THIS PLACE!

I WILL WARN YOU ONCE.

PAK

I-It's them.

It must be!

AND DON'T COME BACK!

I HAD IT ***HANDLED,*** YOU KNOW.

HE ***HIT*** YOU, MEI.

OH, THAT ***SOFTIE*** BARELY LEFT A MARK. I SWEAR THEY'RE LETTING JUST ABOUT ***ANYONE*** INTO THE BLOOD THESE DAYS. WHERE IS THE TRAINING? THE ***DISCIPLINE?***

MEI...

NO.

WHERE IS ***YOUR*** TRAINING AND DISCIPLINE, YUE?

NOT EVERYTHING IS A ***BATTLE.***

I SOUGHT TO TALK THEM DOWN, ***DISTRACT*** THEM, SO THEY'D MOVE ON. A SLAP TO THE FACE IS ***NOTHING*** IF LIVES ARE ***SAVED.***

YOU MUST QUELL THAT ***STORM*** INSIDE YOUR CHEST, MING-YUE. IT HAS ***RAGED*** SINCE OUR PARENTS DIED, I KNOW.

BUT YOU WILL NOT KNOW ***PEACE*** UNTIL IT ***BREAKS.***

YOU ARE RIGHT. I MUST BE ***BETTER.***

WHAT?

I AM NOT ***YOU,*** SISTER.

THOUGH I ***TRY*** AND THESE ARTS DO NOT COME SO ***EASILY*** TO ME, I WILL CHALLENGE MYSELF TO BE...

...BETTER.

YOU ARE ***PERFECT*** THE WAY YOU ARE, SISTER OF MINE.

NO...

...NOT YET.

WELCOME, WELCOME--

--LET US ALL RING IN THIS *NEW YEAR* OF THE *EARTH DRAGON,* TOGETHER!

PLEASE, MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION ONCE MORE!

TO THOSE FROM OUR *HUMBLE VILLAGE...*

...AND TO ALL *OTHERS* WHO TRAVELLED FROM AFAR, WE NOW INVITE YOU TO WITNESS THE *GRAND PERFORMANCE* OF THIS CELEBRATION.

THEY FIRST APPEARED AT OUR DOORS ONE *AUSPICIOUS* NIGHT TEN YEARS AGO, THEN QUICKLY CAPTURED OUR *HEARTS.*

WE NOW CALL THEM *FAMILY.*

PLEASE, WELCOME...

...THE SISTERS OF THE SNOW--

--MEI-XING AND MING-YUE!

I NEED YOU TO UNDERSTAND, MY DAUGHTER...

...NO LIVING THING MOVED OR EXISTED LIKE MY **SISTER.**

MEI-XING WAS **FAVORED** BY THE GODS AND MANKIND ALIKE.

TO ME, THERE WAS NO HIGHER **IDEAL** THAN SHE.

DUM

I COULD ONLY **CHASE** HER EVER FORWARD AS HER **GRAVITY** PULLED ME FORTH AND MINE **PUSHED** HER FURTHER.

FOREVER **CONNECTED** BUT ALWAYS **OUT OF REACH.**

I COULD **READ** HER VERY THOUGHTS IN A **SMILE,** IN A **TOUCH.** SHE HID NOTHING FROM ME IN OUR SHARED LANGUAGE OF **BODY** AND **MIND.**

IF ONLY I ALLOWED HER THE SAME.

SHE CAUGHT **GLANCES.** SHE KNEW ITS **BEAT** BUT DID NOT KNOW THE TRUE CONTENTS OF MY **HEART.**

MY SISTER COULD NOT SEE THE **DARKNESS** THAT FESTERED IN MY **EYES**...FOR ALL SHE SAW REFLECTED WAS HER OWN **LIGHT.**

I COULD SEE HOW THE **WORLD** SAW MY SISTER...

...JUST AS I WENT **UNSEEN** IN HER SHADOW.

MEI WAS NO LONGER **MINE** ALONE.

DUM

DO NOT THINK THIS WAS SIMPLE **GREED** OR **ENVY,** DAUGHTER.

DUM

NO, IT WAS SOMETHING MUCH **DARKER** AND **DANGEROUS.**

IT WAS--

DUM

--LOVE.

SMK

FOR AS THE POETS HAVE MADE CLEAR FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL...

!

...LOVE AND SUFFERING GO HAND IN HAND.

RUUUN!

AIIIEEE!

IT'S THE BLOOD!

I'LL GO HIGH.

AND I'LL GO LOW.

WE TOLD YOU--

KRAK

WHAK

--BEFORE!

PAK

PKOW

PAK

WHAP

AND DON'T COME BACK!

LEAVE THIS PLACE!

KRAK

HAPPY NEW YEAR, ONE AND ALL...

...MY NAME IS ***WU FENG,*** LEADER OF THE ***BLOOD!***

EARLIER TODAY, TWO OF MY MEN WERE ***ATTACKED.***

SUCH DISHONOR WILL ***NEVER*** BE TOLERATED ON THE LANDS THAT ***I*** CONTROL!

HAND OVER THOSE ***RESPONSIBLE--***

--OR SUFFER OUR ***WRATH.***

IT'S HIM.

HE ***KILLED*** OUR PARENTS...

DAUGHTERS!

AKHU! WE MUST PROTECT OUR VILLAGE!

IT MAY BE TOO LATE FOR THAT.

THESE ARE ***BLOOD NINJAS,*** NOT THE LOWLY ***GANGSTERS*** SENT TO COLLECT DEBTS!

NO, THESE WARRIORS WALK AN EVEN ***DARKER PATH.***

THEY HAVE FORGED DEALS WITH ***DARK SPIRITS*** OF THE ***SPIRIT WORLD!***

DEALS THAT GRANTED THEM ***DARK GIFTS--***

SLICE

"--LIKE WIELDING THEIR VERY ***BLOOD*** AS A ***WEAPON!***"

AKHU, I FEAR IT MAY HAVE BEEN I WHO--

WE LED THESE KILLERS TO OUR VILLAGE GATES!

EARLIER TODAY THEY--

NO.

THE BLOOD HAVE THREATENED OUR ***PEOPLE*** AND ***WAYS*** FOR DECADES.

THIS DAY WAS ALWAYS NEAR!

WHAK

THIS ***STUNT*** IS MERELY A RUSE FOR ***OTHER*** DESIRES.

THE BLOOD NOW DEEM US ***UNWORTHY*** OF THE TROUBLE--

KRAK

PAIK

--SO ***TROUBLE*** WE MUST ***GIVE THEM!***

TAT

TAT

LISTEN TO ME.

THERE IS ***MUCH*** YOU DO NOT KNOW OF YOUR ***ORIGINS,*** BUT I KNEW YOUR ***PARENTS!***

IT WAS THEIR ***LIGHT*** THAT LED YOU TO OUR VILLAGE, BUT ***I***--

YOUR TEACHER SPEAKS ***TRUE!***

SLICE

WHEN I HEARD OF TWO SISTER ***OUTSIDERS*** WITH SUCH ***SKILLS,*** I NEEDED TO SEE FOR MYSELF.

COULD IT BE...?

THE ***DAUGHTERS*** BORN OF FORBIDDEN LOVE, GONE MISSING ***TEN*** YEARS AGO?

YES, ***YES.***

MY BLOOD ***CALLS OUT*** TO YOU AND YOURS ***RESPONDS...***

...MY ***NIECES.***

NO!

HAH!

DON'T WORRY.

A PARENT'S ***SINS*** ARE NOT OUR OWN, MUCH LIKE A ***BROTHER'S,*** AND I HANDLED ***HIM*** ALL THOSE YEARS AGO!

PAP!

DIE!

TAFF

TAP

THE IMPERIAL ***BLOOD OF WU*** FLOWS THROUGH YOUR ***VEINS,*** CHILD!

TAT

I DO NOT WISH TO ***KILL*** YOU, BUT TO OFFER YOU YOUR ***BIRTHRIGHT--***

--KNOWLEDGE AND ***POWER!*** DELIVERY FROM YOUR ***EARTHLY RESTRAINTS!***

NEVER!

YOU ***KILLED*** OUR PARENTS, NOW ***DESTROY*** OUR VILLAGE.

WE BEAR NO RELATION TO ***YOU!***

IS THAT SO?

I SEE THE ***DESIRE*** IN YOU, GIRL.

YES, ***YOU,*** THE ONE HELD BACK BY THE OTHER. YOU ***BURN*** WITH SUCH BRILLIANT ***AFFLICTION*** IN HER SHADOW...

ALLOW ME TO ***FREE*** YOU OF SUCH ***BINDS,*** MY NIECE.

RUN, DAUGHTERS.

THEY KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

THEY WILL NOT STOP UNTIL THEY CAPTURE OR KILL YOU BOTH!

NOT UNLESS WE KILL THEM FIRST!

WE MUST HELP PROTECT OUR VILLAGE!

YOU ARE YOUNG.

LIKE THE SHOOT OF A MEDICINAL HERB, PROTECTING YOURSELF WILL BE THE GREATEST BENEFIT TO OTHERS, NOW AND FUTURE.

RUN AND LIVE.

THERE IS NO HONOR IN FLEEING, IN YIELDING!

MY HONOR EXISTS FOR YOU ALONE, SISTER.

I WILL FLEE AND YIELD A THOUSAND TIMES IF IT MEANS YOUR BREATH CONTINUES.

UNTIL WE ARE FREE...?

UNTIL WE ARE FREE.

AS ALWAYS, DAUGHTER, **VIOLENCE** FOUND MY SISTER AND ME ON THAT SNOWY NIGHT.

OUR VILLAGE COULD **REBUILD** BUT WAS NOT SAFE WHILE WE CALLED IT **HOME**. WE ESCAPED AND NEVER RETURNED.

FOR **YEARS** AFTER, WE EXISTED ON THE RUN...

...LOOKING BACK OVER OUR SHOULDERS, ACCUSTOMED TO A WORLD OF **THREATS**.

A WORLD THAT WANTED US **DEAD**.

BUT, DESPITE IT ALL, WE ALWAYS HAD **EACH OTHER**...

...MY OTHER **HALF**, MY SISTER-SELF.

UNTIL THE DAY SUCH **VIOLENCE** CAUGHT UP WITH US AGAIN.

THE DAY YOUR **FATHER** FIRST ENTERED MY **LIFE**.

TO BE CONTINUED...

ROBIN IS MISSING.

CAN A DESPERATE BATMAN SAVE HIS SON BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE?

BATMAN AND ROBIN #21

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ALL IN

MAY

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

THE POWER COMPANY RECHARGED

ALL IN

The Power Company: Recharged #1
variant cover by Sanford Greene

INTERVIEW WITH BRYAN EDWARD HILL

Get ready to power up with the Power Company! Acclaimed writer Bryan Edward Hill takes us inside *The Power Company: Recharged* #1, where a new team assembles to take on new enemies, rebuild trust in heroes, and carve out their place in the DC Universe.

What makes this special the perfect entry point for new fans?

I like one-shots and minis specifically because new readers can come aboard and not be completely lost in the thick forest of continuity. We have a simple setup here: Someone was killed, and we need to find the killer before they kill again. Perhaps I'm a little more interested in the interior aspects of these characters than monthly books often explore. I'm likely doing something a little more intense. A little darker. My imagination tends to work that way. I'm drawn to intensity of experience and the dangerous aspects of human nature.

What can readers expect from Jace Fox's journey?

In many ways, I don't think someone CAN inherit "Batman." Batman is so specific to Bruce Wayne. It's his trauma, his nightmares, his collective experience that led him to create that persona. How do you inherit something like that? How can you simply step into it? I don't think you can, and that's where Jace finds himself. He is this thing that was a creation of someone else, that has value from years of activity in Gotham City, and he's got to find his own way inside of that. To me, he feels like someone seeking a way to be this fully formed icon but expressing himself honestly through that.

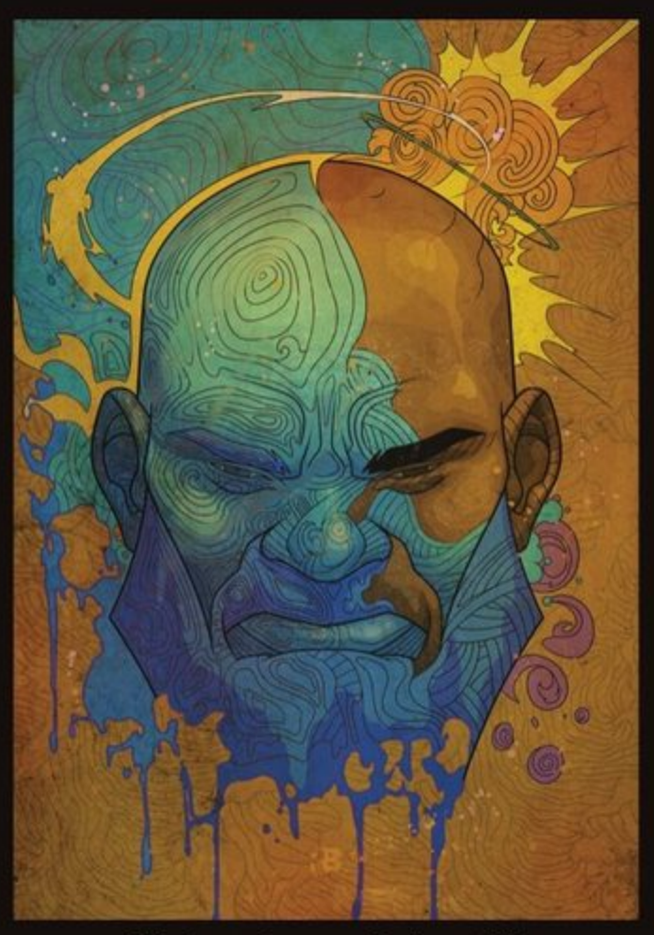
Why was Atlanta the right setting for this story, and how does it shape the tone of the series?

Ostensibly, comic book universes take place across the whole world, but we often get reduced to the kitchen-table-knowledge fictional cities. It felt interesting to bring a story to an American city that isn't often associated with superheroes but is an important city in the diaspora of the American consciousness.

What are you most looking forward to in collaborating with Khary Randolph, Alitha Martinez, and Ray-Anthony Height?

I've known Khary for a very long time. I believe this might be the first time I've worked with him on a project. I've known him since my earliest days in NYC. He was aspirational to many of us. When I met him, he was already in the center of a great career, already known as a brilliant illustrator. To finally work with him is a pleasure. Alitha and Ray-Anthony are also very, very good. I think they'll give a satisfying, art-forward experience.

DON'T MISS *THE POWER COMPANY: RECHARGED* #1, ON SALE NOW!



The Power Company: Recharged #1
variant cover by Ryan Benjamin

The Power Company: Recharged #1
main cover by Edwin Galmon

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